

# Vermont Law School Entrepreneurial Legal Lab

Update to the Vermont  
General Assembly, House  
Committee on Commerce  
and Economic Development



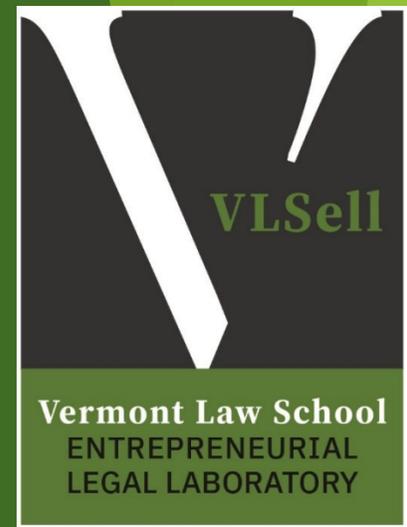
By:

Nicole A. Killoran,  
Professor of Law  
Director, VLSell

# Who are we and what do we do?

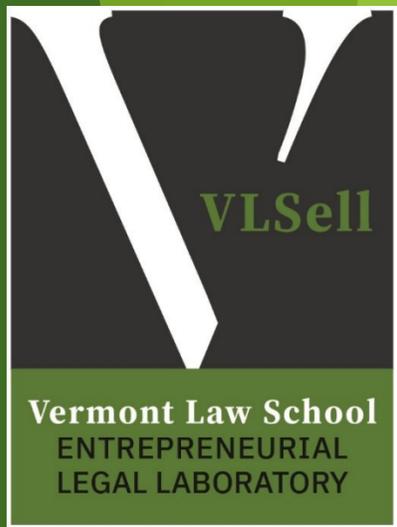
We provide access to legal services for small business:

- Individual educational consults
- Paid attorney referrals for qualifying businesses (5-10 hours paid, we find the attorney)
- Public educational events
- Legal educational materials



# Who are our community partners?

- Vermont Small Business Development Center
- Vermont Bar Association
- Attorneys hosting our law students
- Community Navigator Pilot Project
- Startup Rutland



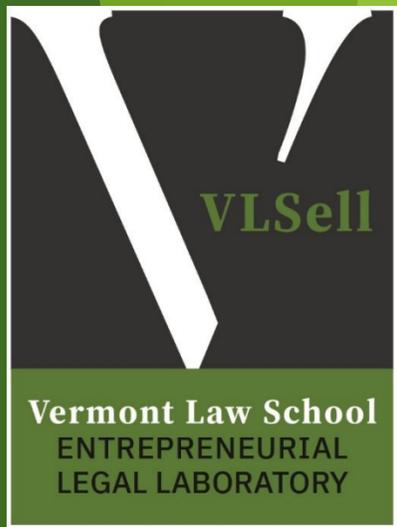
# What are we hearing from small businesses?

## Trends from the CNPP small business survey regarding legal services:

- I don't know what I don't know
- The law is confusing and scary
- I don't know whether, when, and how to work with an attorney
- Lawyers are inaccessible and costly
- The bar is not representative of me or my background

## Business legal needs are wide-ranging:

- Business entity and governance
- Intellectual property protection
- Drafting contracts
- Protecting against risks
- Funding and investment



# Future projects

## State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) Technical Assistance Grant Program

- Five-year program, funded through Treasury
- Access to capital for very small businesses and minority-owned businesses
- Legal services to support businesses seeking funding

## Center for Small Business and Community Legal Education

- Congressional Directed Spending, procured with help from Senator Sanders' office
- Small Business Administration will administer
- Extension of CNPP model, but broader offerings, including services for non-profits

# Questions?

